

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT County Fire	(2) MEETING DATE 7/21/2015	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Robert Lewin (805) 543-4244 Suzi Cain (805) 543-4244	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve the FY 2015-16 renewal agreement (Clerk's File) for cooperative fire protection services with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) in the amount of \$17,016,934. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve and direct the Chair to sign the FY 2015-16 annual agreement for cooperative fire protection services (Clerk's file) with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) in the amount of \$17,061,934. All Districts.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) General Fund (\$13,858,405); Reimbursement Contracts (\$3,158,529)	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$17,016,934.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: <u>8/12/14</u>	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Geoff O'Quest, Administrative Analyst			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: County Fire / Robert Lewin (805) 543-4244
Suzi Cain (805) 543-4244

DATE: 7/21/2015

SUBJECT: Request to approve the FY 2015-16 renewal agreement (Clerk's File) for cooperative fire protection services with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) in the amount of \$17,016,934. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve and direct the Chair to sign the FY 2015-16 annual agreement for cooperative fire protection services (Clerk's file) with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) in the amount of \$17,061,934.

DISCUSSION

CAL FIRE has provided fire protection and related services to the County of San Luis Obispo through a series of annual agreements since 1930. The services provided include emergency medical response, structural and vehicle fire suppression, hazardous materials spill mitigation, aircraft rescue and firefighting, and technical and confined space rescue. Sections 4142 and 4144 of the California Public Resources Code authorize this agreement between the State and the County.

Currently, the County Fire Department operates out of 16 fire stations providing service to an area of over 3,200 square miles. These fire stations include ten County-owned facilities and six State-owned facilities. Fourteen of the stations are staffed seven-days-per-week with full-time staff. Morro-Toro Station 14 and Oak Shores Station 34 remain volunteer stations, with Paid Call Firefighters (PCFs) responding to incidents, supported by full-time staff from other stations. Three stations (Cambria Station 10, San Luis Obispo Station 12, and Shandon Station 51) are staffed under what is known as an "Amador" Plan, where the State pays staffing costs during fire season and the County pays staffing costs during non-fire season.

Your Board is requested to approve a contract for Fiscal Year 2015-16 in the amount of \$17,061,934. This reflects a \$1,345,247 (8.6%) increase over the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 contract. The primary reasons for the increase include: 1) Firefighter-I salary increases due to the minimum wage increase (although we do not have any Firefighter-I's in the contract, the salaries for other firefighting classifications were increased to alleviate compaction); 2) Increases to the state's contract rates for employee benefits and administration; 3) An extension of the reimbursement agreement with Topaz Solar to staff Carrizo Plains Station 42; and, 4) An extension of the reimbursement agreement with the City of Morro Bay for dispatch services.

Functional breakdown of the budget shows costs divided among four primary areas: managing the department takes \$918,506 (5.4% of the total), preventing emergencies takes \$976,328 (5.7%), preparing for emergencies takes \$1,118,762 (6.6%), and responding to emergencies takes \$14,003,337 (82.3%).

This contract is the product of ongoing cooperative fire protection and emergency response efforts between the County, the State, and numerous other emergency response agencies. It builds on the strengths of each agency, and effectively leverages the County's investment in protecting the lives and property of County residents and

visitors, with the capabilities and resources of those agencies.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

The attached agreement has been reviewed by County Counsel and County Risk Management.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This agreement for cooperative fire protection services is in the amount of \$17,016,934. Of this total, \$3,168,530 is offset with revenue from existing cooperative fire protection service agreements and the remaining \$13,858,405 is funded by the County General Fund, grant proceeds, Prop 172 Sales Tax revenues, fees and other revenue sources. The contract amount included in the Proposed Budget was \$16,296,670, which was increased by \$720,174 with the approval of a Budget Augmentation Request to implement the reimbursement agreement with Topaz Solar to staff Carrizo Plains Station 42.

This contract comprises approximately 82% of County Fire's FY 2015-16 budgeted expenditures. Other, non-contract expenditures include training; equipment; stipends for paid-call-firefighters; facility rent, maintenance and utilities; insurance and countywide overhead. It should be noted that sales tax revenues received by the County from construction of the solar plants in California Valley and used to offset a portion of the costs of the agreement will no longer be received since construction is complete. In Fiscal Year 2014-15, \$601,901 in contract expenses were offset in this manner.

As mentioned above, \$3,168,530 in contract costs are offset by revenues under fire protection and emergency response agreements between the County and the following agencies. The portion of this contract attributable to each agency is shown in the table below.

Agreements	Offset amount
Los Osos Community Services District	\$1,792,691
Topaz Solar, Inc.	\$540,017
San Luis Obispo County Municipal Airport	\$474,654
Avila Beach Fire Protection District	\$132,092
City of Morro Bay	\$114,538
Dispatch Agreements with San Miguel Fire, Santa Margarita Fire, Templeton Fire, Cambria Fire and Cayucos Fire (Total amount shown)	\$114,538
Grand Total	\$3,168,530

RESULTS

This cooperative agreement between the County and CAL FIRE provides for the continued efficient and cost-effective delivery of fire and emergency services, and allows the Department to continue its efforts to meet performance measures included in the County Budget. It is an essential part of the department's efforts to provide a safe community, a healthy community and a well-governed community.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Clerk's File - CAL FIRE FY 2015-16 Contract